



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



247849

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
SE-5J

February 2, 2006

Mr. Klyde Blackman
Engineer of Track
Indiana Harbor Belt R.R. Company
2721 - 161st Street
Hammond, In 46323

RE: Calumet Container Site (Site), Hammond, Indiana

Dear Mr. Blackman:

Thank you for stopping by the Calumet Container Site today to explain railroad protocols regarding excavation adjacent to railroad tracks along the east side of the Site. EPA believes that drums are embedded adjacent to the railroad tracks at a lateral distance of 25 feet. It is not known at this time how far into the railroad track switching rail the drum deposit extends. Per our discussion, we anticipate beginning excavation activities on February 10, 2006, from the Site side. EPA appreciates your commitment to have a flagman present while excavation activities are underway. EPA will immediately backfill with tunnel sand, compact, and grade the excavated area. EPA plans to excavate drums until they are no longer present or until we reach a point that your flagman deems is unsafe. At that point, we intend to discontinue excavation operations and discuss plans with your representative. Once again, we would like to thank you for your cooperation regarding this cleanup project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Verneta Simon".

Verneta Simon, P.E.
On-Scene Coordinator

cc: Jeff Rhinefield, Environmental Quality Management

bcc: Charles Gebien, SE-5J
Claudea Heise, MCC-10J
Stuart Hill, P-19J
Sally Jansen, SE-5J
Richard Murawski, C-14J